

# Metropolitan Transportation Commission Programming and Allocations Committee

October 14, 2009

Item Number 2h

## Resolution Nos. 3930 and 3847, Revised

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**Subject:** New Freedom Program – Recommended Third Cycle Program of Projects and Revision to the First Cycle Program of Projects

**Background:** The Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) New Freedom Program provides grants for new capital and operating projects aimed at reducing transportation barriers faced by individuals with disabilities beyond the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Funds are apportioned by formula to large urbanized areas (UAs), small UAs, and rural areas based on the population of persons with disabilities in each UA. Funds are required to be spent on projects that provide transportation services within those areas. MTC, as the designated recipient of the Bay Area’s large UA funds, is responsible for conducting a competitive selection process for those funds. Caltrans, the designated recipient for the state’s small UA and rural area funds, is currently conducting a separate statewide call for projects for \$1.6 million in small UA funds and \$0.7 million in non-UA funds.

In May 2009, MTC adopted Resolution No. 3905, which set forth guidelines for the competitive selection of third cycle large UA projects. \$3.7 million is available in this cycle. This amount includes the FY 2008 and FY 2009 apportionments for the Bay Area’s five large UAs (Antioch, Santa Rosa, Concord, San Jose, and San Francisco-Oakland). MTC issued a call for projects in June 2009 and applications were due in August 2009. MTC received 20 applications totaling \$8.5 million in requests.

Of the 20 applications, five were operating projects, five were traditional capital projects (i.e., vehicle or equipment purchases), two were a combination of operations and traditional capital, and the remaining eight projects involved mobility management, which FTA considers an eligible capital expense. For this program, mobility management focuses on the needs of the transportation-disadvantaged disabled population, and involves coordinating tailored services to more cost-effectively meet the needs of this market. Mobility management figures prominently in SAFETEA’s human service transportation coordination initiatives, and is identified as a need in the Commission’s adopted Coordinated Public Transit/Human Services Transportation Plan (“Coordinated Plan”).

Following an initial eligibility screening by MTC staff, eligible projects were evaluated by a panel consisting of three Elderly and Disabled Advisory Committee (EDAC) members and two MTC staff. Applications were scored based on the following criteria: (1) need and benefits; (2) coordination,

partnership, and outreach; and (3) project readiness. Applicants were asked to cite—and the evaluation panel took into consideration—the relevant gaps, solutions, and/or strategies from the Coordinated Plan that each project was intended to address.

Attachment 1 lists the applications from highest to lowest score, and shows the recommended grant amount from each UA in which each project was eligible to receive funding.

Recommended grant amounts were determined based on interrelated factors:

- a project's score relative to other projects within the same UA;
- the scalability of a project, if competing in oversubscribed UAs; and,
- the objective of using as much of the available funds as possible.

The above constraints result in some instances where lower-scoring projects are recommended for funding while higher-scoring projects are not, and recommended grant amounts are less than requested. Project sponsors have been consulted on any recommended modifications, and concur with them.

The proposed program of projects includes funding for 15 projects in seven of the nine Bay Area counties. There are no large UAs in Solano and Napa counties. Potential project sponsors in those counties are encouraged to apply to Caltrans for the small UA and rural area funds.

Following program approval, MTC will program the projects into the 2009 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), submit a grant to FTA, and enter into agreements with the project sponsors upon FTA grant approval.

**Issues:**

The program of projects assumes that savings from a Cycle 1 project – SFMTA's NextMuni Audible Arrival Time/Push-to-Talk (PTT) project – can be redirected to an eligible Cycle 3 project. Staff is proposing to redirect the money to SamTrans' Peninsula Rides project to best meet FTA requirements. MTC has received preliminary approval from FTA to proceed with this budget revision. In the unlikely event that the budget revision is not formally approved by FTA, MTC staff will return with a revised program of projects.

**Recommendation:**

Refer Resolution Nos. 3930 and 3847, Revised to the Commission for approval.

**Attachments:**

Attachment 1 – Recommended Projects in Large Urbanized Areas  
MTC Resolution No. 3930  
MTC Resolution No. 3847, Revised  
Project Support Letters

**Attachment 1**  
**New Freedom Program – Third Cycle**  
**Recommended Projects in Large Urbanized Areas**

Rank	Sponsor	Project Name	Total Cost	Federal Amount Requested	Average Score	Recommended Grant Amount						
						Total	By Urbanized Area*					
							Antioch	Concord	San Francisco - Oakland	San Jose	Santa Rosa	
1	SamTrans	Peninsula Rides Implementation and Development Activities	\$ 316,939	\$ 199,825	87	\$ -			***			
2	Marin Transit	Mobility Management: Brokerage & Volunteer Driver Program	\$ 400,547	\$ 263,605	86	\$ 263,605			\$ 263,605			
3	Lafayette, City of	Lamorinda Spirit Van Program	\$ 87,702	\$ 25,000	85	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000				
4	ACTIA	Southern Alameda County Travel Training Program	\$ 120,000	\$ 60,000	83	\$ 60,000			\$ 60,000			
5	CCTA	Web Enabled Senior/Disabled Transportation Database	\$ 120,000	\$ 96,000	82	\$ 96,000	\$ 96,000	\$ -	\$ -			
6	LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	LightHouse Accessible Maps and Mobility Management Project (LAMMMP)	\$ 206,570	\$ 165,256	81	\$ 165,256	\$ 44,923	\$ 120,333	\$ -	\$ -		
6	San Francisco MTA	Vehicle Mobile Data Computer (MDC) Project	\$ 875,780	\$ 700,624	81	\$ 700,624			\$ 700,624			
6	Outreach & Escort Inc.	Santa Clara County Mobility Management Center	\$ 1,162,368	\$ 928,868	81	\$ 928,868				\$ 928,868		
9	AC Transit	Intra-Vehicle Text-Based Message Signs (IVTMS)	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 960,000	80	\$ 960,000			\$ 960,000			
10	LAVTA	Para-Taxi Program	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000	79	\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000				
10	Peninsula Jewish Community Center	Get Up & Go: Escorted Transportation for Disabled Seniors	\$ 410,713	\$ 135,273	79	\$ 135,273			\$ 135,273			
12	Rehabilitation Services of Northern California	Mt. Diablo Center Mobilizer	\$ 120,408	\$ 60,204	77	\$ 60,204		\$ 60,204				
13	Center for Independent Living	Riding to Independence	\$ 633,949	\$ 501,101	70	\$ 90,137			\$ 90,137			
13	Senior Helpline Services	Giving Seniors a Lift!	\$ 241,500	\$ 100,000	70	\$ 67,650	\$ -	\$ 67,650	\$ -			
15	San Francisco MTA	Accessible Pedestrian Signal (APS) Project	\$ 363,000	\$ 290,000	69	\$ -			\$ -			
16	Alameda County Public Works Agency	Baywood Community Pedestrian Improvement Project	\$ 462,500	\$ 294,000	68	\$ -			\$ -			
17	Santa Clara VTA	Real Time Transit Information (RTI) Audio Signage Project	\$ 508,500	\$ 406,800	64	\$ -			\$ -			
18	Yellow Checker Cab Co., Inc.	Wheelchair Accessible Taxicabs, San Jose	\$ 1,044,000	\$ 597,600	63	\$ -			\$ -			
18	Mobility Management Partners	Mobility Management for Regional Center Clients	\$ 3,125,707	\$ 2,500,566	63	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
20	Santa Rosa CityBus	Enhanced Oakmont Service - Deviated Fixed Route Operations / Low-Floor Bus	\$ 682,619	\$ 186,241	59	\$ 186,241					\$ 186,241	
			<b>Total Requested</b>	<b>\$8,480,963</b>		<b>Total Recommended</b>	<b>\$ 3,748,858</b>	\$ 140,923	\$ 283,187	\$ 2,209,639	\$ 928,868	\$ 186,241
						<b>Total Available</b>	<b>\$ 3,748,858</b>	\$ 140,923	\$ 283,187	\$ 2,209,639	\$ 928,868	\$ 186,241

\* The names given to the urbanized areas correspond to the largest city or cities in those areas, but the areas themselves are much larger.

\*\*\* Recommended to receive \$200,000 in New Freedom Cycle 1 funds (San Francisco-Oakland UA funds that are no longer needed by SFMTA for their NextMuni Audible Arrival Time/Push-to-Talk project)

Date: October 28, 2009  
W.I.: 1512  
Referred by: PAC

ABSTRACT  
Resolution No. 3930

This resolution adopts the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Freedom (Section 5317) Third Cycle Program of Projects for the large urbanized areas of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The following attachment is provided with this resolution:

Attachment A    New Freedom Third Cycle Program of Projects for  
Large Urbanized Areas

Further discussion of this action is contained in the Programming and Allocations Committee Summary sheet dated October 14, 2009.

Date: October 28, 2009  
W.I.: 1512  
Referred by: PAC

Re: New Freedom Program, Third Cycle Program of Projects for Large Urbanized Areas

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION  
RESOLUTION No. 3930

WHEREAS, the United States Code Title 49 Section 5317 (49 U.S.C. 5317) authorizes and sets forth the provisions for the New Freedom Program, which makes grants to recipients for addressing the transportation needs of disabled persons through the provision of new services and facility improvements that go beyond those required by the Americans with Disabilities Act; and

WHEREAS, 49 U.S.C. 5317(c) apportions New Freedom funds by formula to large urbanized areas, small urbanized areas, and non-urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, 49 U.S.C. 5317(d) requires designated recipients of New Freedom funds to conduct a competitive process to award grants to subrecipients; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 66500 et seq., the Metropolitan Transportation Commission ("MTC") is the regional transportation planning agency for the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, MTC is the designated metropolitan planning organization (MPO) for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, consistent with 49 U.S.C. 5307(a)(2), MTC is the designated recipient of New Freedom Program funding apportionments for large urbanized areas in the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, as the designated recipient, MTC has conducted a competitive selection process and developed for submittal to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) a program of projects (POP) for the San Francisco Bay Area's large urbanized area New Freedom Program FY 2008 and FY 2009 apportionments, attached hereto as Attachment A, and incorporated herein as though set forth at length; and

WHEREAS, MTC has adopted Resolution No. 3905, which sets forth MTC's Program Guidelines for the Third Funding Cycle of the New Freedom Program; and

WHEREAS, MTC conducted the competitive selection processes for the New Freedom large urbanized area apportionment in accordance with those guidelines; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that MTC adopts the New Freedom Third Cycle Program of Projects for large urbanized areas as listed in Attachment A; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC will submit to FTA a grant application to secure the New Freedom funding for the subrecipients listed in Attachment A; and be it further

RESOLVED, that MTC will enter into agreements with the subrecipients listed in Attachment A to ensure their compliance with all applicable Federal requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that Attachment A may be revised from time to time by approval of MTC's Programming and Allocations Committee.

METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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Scott Haggerty, Chair

The above resolution was entered into by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission at the regular meeting of the Commission held in Oakland, California, on October 28, 2009.

Date: October 28, 2009  
W.I.: 1512  
Referred by: PAC

Attachment A  
MTC Resolution No. 3930  
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**NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM – THIRD CYCLE  
PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR LARGE URBANIZED AREAS**

No.	Subrecipient	Project		Total Project Cost	Federal New Freedom Recommended Share
		Name	Description		
1	SamTrans	Peninsula Rides Implementation & Development Activities	Continue and expand the Mobility Ambassador Program; implement a Vehicle Sharing Demonstration Program; update, reprint, and distribute the Senior Mobility Guide; coordinate an information and referral network of call centers; market and promote the development of volunteer ride programs.	\$316,939	***
2	Marin Transit	Mobility Management: Brokerage & Volunteer Driver Program	Create a transportation brokerage to serve as the main coordinating entity and one-stop provider of transportation services for Marin's disabled, senior, and low-income populations. Create a new volunteer driver program that will provide door-to-door escorted "safety net" transportation for frail and disabled seniors who for health reasons cannot tolerate shared ride services.	\$400,547	\$263,605
3	Lafayette, City of	Lamorinda Spirit Van Program	Provide semi-escorted door through door transportation service for fragile seniors who have disabilities in the tri-city area of Lafayette, Moraga, and Orinda. The service transports passengers to essential errands, a nutrition program, appointments, and occasional social outings.	\$87,702	\$25,000
4	ACTIA	Southern Alameda County Travel Training Program	Provide classroom and field training to elderly and disabled persons to increase their awareness, knowledge, and skills in using public transportation within their communities, including AC Transit, Union City Transit, and BART.	\$110,000	\$60,000
5	CCTA	Web Enabled Senior/Disabled Transportation Database	Convert an existing comprehensive inventory of transportation services available to seniors and people with disabilities into a web based search tool for agencies and the general public.	\$120,000	\$96,000
6	LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired	LightHouse Accessible Maps and Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Training Project	(1) Create a series of tactile and large print maps, called strip maps, designed to provide route and route segment information for BART, MUNI, SamTrans, and CalTrain; and (2) Implement an Orientation and Mobility (O&M) Training program to meet the specific transit needs of individuals who are blind or visually impaired.	\$206,570	\$165,256

\*\*\* Recommended to receive \$200,000 in New Freedom Cycle 1 funds (see MTC Res. 3847, Revised)

**NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM – THIRD CYCLE  
PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR LARGE URBANIZED AREAS**  
(continued)

No.	Subrecipient	Project		Total Project Cost	Federal New Freedom Recommended Share
		Name	Description		
7	San Francisco MTA	Vehicle Mobile Data Computer (MDC) Project	Purchase and install 120 Mobile Data Computers (MDCs) with GPS capability on all SF Paratransit vans to allow remote interactive connectivity to the paratransit routing and scheduling system; purchase and install management software at the Paratransit Broker's office to allow for live trip dispatching and trip management.	\$875,780	\$700,624
8	Outreach & Escort	Santa Clara County Mobility Management Center	(1) Create a web-based mobility management tool to coordinate human service transportation. The web-based tool will include agency profiles, agency member registration, trip reservation and billing functions, volunteer driver programs, gas cards, agency fleet inventories, and GIS mapping of key locations. (2) Purchase ten accessible taxis, provide them to licensed local taxi companies, and include them in the fleet that is available to the trip reservation function in the web portal.	\$1,162,368	\$928,868
9	AC Transit	Intra-Vehicle Text-Based Message Signs (IVTMS)	Purchase and install rolling text-based, LED signs to be mounted inside the interior of AC Transit's revenue vehicle fleet. The signs will display bus stop location information, helping hearing-impaired passengers, as well as the general public, with general navigation and alighting decisions.	\$1,200,000	\$960,000
10	LAVTA	Para-Taxi Program	Provide a reimbursement-based taxi program (Para-Taxi) for LAVTA's ADA-certified paratransit patrons making trips to and from Dublin and Pleasanton.	\$20,000	\$10,000
11	Peninsula Jewish Community Center	Get Up & Go: Escorted Transportation for Disabled Seniors	Continue and expand Get Up & Go, an escorted transportation and socialization program serving San Mateo County older adults who can no longer drive due to disability or frailty.	\$410,713	\$135,273
12	Rehabilitation Services of Northern California	Mt. Diablo Center Mobilizer	(1) Provide door through door transportation to and from the Mt. Diablo Center (MDC) Adult Day Health Care program for MDC participants, and (2) provide a nutrition/shopping shuttle for senior/disabled Concord residents during MDC's program hours.	\$120,408	\$60,204
13	Center for Independent Living	Riding to Independence	Implement Riding to Independence, an expansion of CIL's existing travel and mobility device training program for youth with disabilities and their families, and seniors and adults with disabilities.	\$112,672	\$90,137

**NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM – THIRD CYCLE  
PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR LARGE URBANIZED AREAS**  
(continued)

No.	Subrecipient	Project		Total Project Cost	Federal New Freedom Recommended Share
		Name	Description		
14	Senior Helpline Services	Giving Seniors a Lift!	Ensure that aging-in-place needs are met for homebound seniors, 60 years and older by providing escorted rides for ambulatory seniors to appointments and essential errands and providing transportation information/referral services.	\$241,500	\$67,650
15	Santa Rosa CityBus	Enhanced Oakmont Service – Deviated Fixed Route Ops/ Low-Floor Bus	(1) Provide enhanced demand responsive/deviated fixed route service to the Oakmont Community in Santa Rosa. The service will deviate approximately 3/4 mile off of the fixed route to pick up or drop off paratransit eligible patrons; (2) Purchase a 30' low floor bus to be used on the deviated fixed route service in Oakmont.	\$682,619	\$186,241
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$3,748,858</b>

Date: February 27, 2008  
W.I.: 1512  
Referred by: PAC  
Revised: 06/24/09-C  
10/28/09-C

## ABSTRACT

### Resolution No. 3847, Revised

This resolution adopts the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) New Freedom (Section 5317) Program of Projects for the large urbanized areas of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The following attachment is provided with resolution:

Attachment A FY 2005-06 New Freedom Program of Projects for  
Large Urbanized Areas

This resolution was revised on June 24, 2009 to amend Attachment A to reduce the local match amount for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency project, and to modify the total project cost and project description accordingly.

This resolution was revised on October 28, 2009 to amend Attachment A to remove the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency project, and to increase the amount of New Freedom funding for the SamTrans project by \$200,000.

Further discussion of this action is contained in the MTC Executive Director's Memorandum to the Programming and Allocations Committee dated February 13, 2008, and the Programming and Allocations Committee Summary sheets dated February 13, 2008, June 10, 2009 and October 14, 2009.

Date: February 27, 2008  
W.I.: 1513  
Referred by: PAC  
Revised: 06/24/09-C  
10/28/09-C

Attachment A  
MTC Resolution No. 3847  
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**NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM - FY 2005-06 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR LARGE URBANIZED AREAS**

No.	Subrecipient	Project		Total Project Cost	Federal New Freedom Recommended Share
		Name	Description		
1	AC Transit	Paratransit Inventory	Conduct a detailed inventory of all available transit resources, including funding, equipment, and personnel, in Alameda and Western Contra Costa County to determine how best to structure a coordinated system. Also investigate institutional settings and financial implications of establishing a mobility manager.	\$180,000	\$144,000
2	Benicia, City of	Taxi Scrip Program Extension	Expand the Benicia Breeze Taxi Scrip Program to destinations in Concord, Martinez, Pleasant Hill, and Walnut Creek to provide access to social service, medical centers, shopping, recreation and other quality of life destinations in Central Contra Costa County for seniors, persons with disabilities, and Medicare card holders.	\$30,000	\$15,000
3	Berkeley, City of	Ed Roberts Campus/Ashby BART Station Enhancements	Support construction of a universally designed helical ramp, oversized accessible elevators, and an accessible elevator lobby for people who will visit the Ed Roberts Campus.	\$1,106,568	\$669,405
4	Central Contra Costa Transit Authority	Community Connection Program Expansion	Provide a \$5,000 per van annual subsidy for maintenance of up to 25 retired paratransit vans for use by community-based organizations to provide transportation services to seniors and people with disabilities, with at least 50 trips per month to ADA-eligible individuals.	\$125,000	\$62,500
5	Central Contra Costa Transit Authority	Comprehensive Mobility Options Inventory	Conduct a comprehensive inventory of all available mobility options for seniors and persons with disabilities to serve as a building block for later developing a mobility management function for majority of Contra Costa County and the Tri-Valley.	\$43,750	\$35,000
6	Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Dept	Contra Costa Volunteer Driver Program Expansion	Expand existing volunteer driver programs for disabled, homebound seniors to areas in Contra Costa County that are low-income and/or have high populations of ethnic groups who do not speak English as their primary language.	\$153,114	\$45,000

**NEW FREEDOM PROGRAM - FY 2005-06 PROGRAM OF PROJECTS FOR LARGE URBANIZED AREAS  
(continued)**

No.	Subrecipient	Project		Total Project Cost	Federal New Freedom Recommended Share
		Name	Description		
7	San Mateo County Transit District (a)	Peninsula Ride Connection	Provide mobility management services to seniors and people with disabilities in San Mateo County.  Cycle 1 tasks: assess feasibility of countywide phone information and assistance service; coordinate corps of volunteer mobility ambassadors; update the Senior Mobility Guide; coordinate and administer shared van program; promote mobility in city planning processes; and develop business plan.  Cycle 3 tasks: continue and expand the Mobility Ambassador Program; implement a Vehicle Sharing Demonstration Program; update, reprint, and distribute the Senior Mobility Guide; assess how to coordinate an information and referral network of call centers; market and promote the development of volunteer ride programs.	\$501,139	\$347,200
8	San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (b)	NextMuni Audible Arrival Time/Push-to-Talk (PTT)	Evaluate results of the pilot PTT installations, which translate bus arrival information and other messages to speech at bus shelters; and purchase and install PTT at an additional 50 locations.	\$250,000	\$0
9	Santa Clara Valley Transportation Agency	Mobility Options Travel Training Program	Provide travel training and fixed-route transit support information to persons with disabilities and seniors over a three-year period. Includes on-site and mobile presentations; specialized training for individuals with visual, cognitive, and developmental disabilities; group travel instruction; one-on-one travel instruction; and peer mode travel instruction.	\$454,254	\$227,127
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$1,545,232</b>

Notes:

- (a) San Mateo County Transit District's New Freedom share was increased from \$147,200 to \$347,200 and total project cost was increased from \$184,200 to \$501,139 on 10/28/09. See Resolution No. 3930 for additional information.
- (b) San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency's NextMuni Audible Arrival Time/Push-to-Talk (PTT) New Freedom amount was changed to zero on 10/28/09 at the request of SFMTA. The project was funded with other local funds.